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Docket: 01081

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Katsumi OKOUCHI

Art Unit: 3724

Serial No.: 09/835,495

Examiner: Boyer D. Ashley

Filed: April 17, 2001

For: LIGHTED CUTTING TOOLS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Honorable Director of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 17, 2002, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following rewritten paragraph:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is, accordingly, one object of the present teachings to provide improved cutting tools that can effectively illuminate a portion of a workpiece that is being cut during a cutting operation.

According one aspect of the present teachings, cutting tools having improved illumination characteristics are taught that can also prevent or substantially reduce the amount of cutting chips that may scatter and adhere to a light during a cutting operation. For example, cutting tools are taught that have a light mounted within the blade case in a position that is laterally displaced from a saw blade. Preferably, the light is directed along a line that is substantially parallel to the saw blade and the cutting line of the workpiece. The light may